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Eastern District of Michigan

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Case Name:

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Case Number:

2:10-cv-13101-BAF-RSW

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Docket Text:

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UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF MICHIGAN SOUTHERN DIVISION

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

Plaintiff,

-and-

SIERRA CLUB,

Plaintiff-Intervenor,

-v-

Case Number: 10-13101

DTE ENERGY COMPANY, and DETROIT EDISON COMPANY,

Defendants,

TELEPHONIC CONFERENCE
BEFORE THE HONORABLE BERNARD A. FRIEDMAN
UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE

100 U. S. Courthouse & Federal Building 231 West Lafayette Boulevard West Detroit, Michigan 48226 TUESDAY, MAY 13TH, 2014

APPEARANCES:

For the Plaintiff:

Thomas A. Benson, Esq. Kristin M. Furrie, Esq.

For Plaintiff-Intervenor:

Mary M. Whittle, Esq.

Nicholas J. Schroeck, Esq.

For the Defendants:

F. William Brownell, Esq.

To Obtain Certified Transcript, Contact: JOAN L. MORGAN, OFFICIAL COURT REPORTER 734 812-2672

Proceedings recorded by mechanical stenography. Transcript produced by computer-assisted transcription.

TELEPHONIC CONFERENCE TUESDAY, MAY 13^{TH} , 2014

1	Detroit, Michigan
2	May 13 th , 2014
3	
4	THE COURT: Hello.
5	How is everybody today?
6	Tell me who's here for the United States.
7	MR. BENSON: Hi, your Honor.
8	For the United States it's Tom Benson and Kristin
9	Furrie.
10	THE COURT: Okay. And Sierra Club?
11	Not here. That's fine. No problem.
12	MS. WHITTLE: Your Honor, Sierra Club is
13	represented by Mary Whittle and local counsel Nicholas
14	Schroeck is also on the phone.
15	THE COURT: Oh, okay, you're there. I appreciate
16	it. Thanks.
17	Today was kind of a status conference, I thought.
18	We have a couple of things that are outstanding.
19	Number one, it's my understanding that nobody has
20	any objection to the certification of the motion; is that
21	everybody's understanding of the issues so that it can
22	go to the Court of Appeals on one issue? Everybody agrees
23	on that, I think.
24	MR. BROWNELL: That's correct, your Honor, for DTE
25	Energy

TELEPHONIC CONFERENCE TUESDAY, MAY 13TH, 2014

1	THE COURT: Anybody oppose to it?
2	We hear no opposition. Oh, good.
3	So why doesn't someone prepare an order to that
4	effect, and I would suspect oh, we'll do it?
5	THE CLERK: You issued that this morning.
6	THE COURT: Oh, we already issue it. I signed it.
7	So we're all set on that one. I forgot the file.
8	The other issue that we have is the motion for
9	THE CLERK: Motion for reconsideration of DTE and
10	Sierra responding to it.
11	THE COURT: So where do we stand on that one?
12	This is Dan, one of my clerks talking.
13	THE CLERK: The issue there was whether Sierra
14	Club should be allowed to amend their complaint and add
15	that extra claim.
16	THE COURT: Okay.
17	MR. BROWNELL: Judge Friedman, this is Bill
18	Brownell
19	THE COURT: Go on, Bill.
20	MR. BROWNELL: DTE consented with respect to four
21	of the claims, but the fifth claim was one that was not
22	brought by the Government. In the motion we simply wanted
23	to note that, that was opposed, it wasn't unopposed.
24	THE COURT: You oppose it. I'm coming back to
25	that. I'm in a middle of another case.

TELEPHONIC CONFERENCE TUESDAY, MAY 13TH, 2014

1	I'm not going to allow Sierra to add anything
2	that was not originally in the structure of the original
3	complaint.
4	There's one more thing that we had outstanding
5	and that was
6	THE CLERK: That was the extension of time to
7	respond
8	THE COURT: Oh, no nobody objects to the extension
9	of time?
10	MR. BROWNELL: DTE's motion to extend the time to
11	respond to the amended complaint.
12	THE COURT: Right, and nobody's objected so you
13	may have that time.
14	Okay. Is there anything else that we should be
15	talking about today that we haven't, or anything?
16	You know, we'll have to wait and see what the
17	Court of Appeals does. So we'll stay everything else until
18	we see what they're going to do.
19	MS. WHITTLE: Your Honor, this is Sierra Club, I
20	just wanted to mention that the additional claim we believe
21	was within it continues to be within the same realm of
22	all the other claims. The Government isn't bringing it, we
23	are bringing it independently of the Government.
24	THE COURT: Okay.
25	MS. WHITTLE: It's all the same type of claim.

JOAN L. MORGAN, OFFICIAL COURT REPORTER

TELEPHONIC CONFERENCE TUESDAY, MAY 13TH, 2014

1	THE COURT: Okay. Then it doesn't make any
2	difference. I'm not going to allow you to amend or do
3	anything else. If you think it's part of the same claim,
4	that's fine. There's no problem. But I'm not going to
5	expand on anything that isn't there by Sierra Club.
6	Okay. Anything else?
7	Okay. We'll wait and see what happens and go from
8	there.
9	MR. BENSON: Okay. Thank you, your Honor.
10	THE COURT: Okay. Anything else?
11	MS. WHITTLE: No.
12	THE COURT: Okay. Thanks.
13	Bye-bye.
14	MR. BROWNELL: Thanks.
15	(Proceeding concluded.)
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2	
3	CERTIFICATE
4	
5	
6	I, JOAN L. MORGAN, Official Court Reporter for the
7	United States District Court for the Eastern District of
8	Michigan, appointed pursuant to the provisions of Title 28,
9	United States Code, Section 753, do hereby certify that the
10	foregoing proceedings were had in the within entitled and
11	number cause of the date hereinbefore set forth, and I do
12	hereby certify that the foregoing transcript has been
13	prepared by me or under my direction.
14	
15	S:/ JOAN L. MORGAN, CSR
16	Official Court Reporter
17	Detroit, Michigan 48226
18	
19	
20	
21	October 20 th , 2014
22	
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